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23 February 1968

Dear Don,

When I returned from sick leave last week, I was handed the two items attached and told that they had been prepared in OSI for distribution outside the Agency without any coordination with OSR. In view of the fact that both items involve the matter of Soviet expenditures in the military and R&D fields, I am concerned if what I was told is the fact.

The first item appears to be taken from OSR publications. My concern is that no checking with us after preparation appears to have taken place. When OSI has a request for this kind of information, I would urge strongly that you pass it to us for preparation. If time is of the essence, tell me -- we can react quickly.

I had discussed the second item -- question #20 from the Mahon Committee -- with Carl Duckett when we both first saw it at the Capitol. I agreed that DDS&T should respond. Neither Carl nor I envisioned that the response would be cast in economic terms. It probably is all right that it was. But the answer should have -- at the minimum -- been coordinated with OSR before being released. In fact, OSR could have provided you with a better response than the one here.

It had never occurred to me that the military-economic sphere was a gray area in the OSI-OSR relationship. I hope it is not and that these are accidents that will not recur.

I assure you that we will respond promptly to any needs OSI has for economic information in the military and R&D areas. There is no need for your people to involve themselves in what is an area of considerable complexity and sensitivity, one not to be entered lightly.

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BRUCE C. CLARKE, Jr.

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